

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Revczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
March 22, 2016



Above left: Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmer for 2016 Bruce Gresczyk Jr., his wife Amy and son Bruce III are joined by Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Revczky and Erin Pirro of Farm Credit East at the award presentation at last week's Agriculture Day at the Capitol. Above right: the farm stand at Anderson Farms in Old Wethersfield, which received the Century Farm award. The original farmhouse is visible at far right.

Bruce Gresczyk Jr. of Gresczyk Farms in New Hartford was named Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year last week during the annual Agriculture Day at the Capitol in Hartford.

In accepting the award, Gresczyk said he was deeply humbled to be recognized by his peers.

"I love farming and agriculture and I look up to anyone involved in it," he said.

The following remarks were given during the presentation by Erin Pirro of Farm Credit East:

"I am very lucky to be able to say I wake up and get to do something I love every day."

This year's outstanding young farmer has fond memories of beginning at an early age, with his play farm in a sand pit where he'd harvest hay by ripping out grass and potting up weeds and discarded plants to sell to friends of the family.

A true entrepreneur at a young age, Bruce Gresczyk, Jr. went off to SUNY Cobleskill for a degree in Agricultural Business and came home with many ideas to make sure the farm not only survived, but thrived.

By analyzing resources and records, Bruce was able to determine that the family was spreading themselves too thin by attending 22 farmers' markets each week. On his recommendations, they changed their business model by

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The following remarks were given at Agriculture Day at the Capitol in Hartford last week by Dr. James LaMondia, Chief Scientist at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, in announcing Anderson Farms of Wethersfield as the recipient of the 2015 Century Farm Award:

Anderson Farms, located in Wethersfield, was founded in 1854 by James R. Anderson who emigrated to Connecticut from Scotland.

Red onions, tobacco and dairy were the principle commodities first produced on the farm. As the farm grew and prospered, James built a large Victorian-style home that still graces the Broad Street Green in Old Wethersfield.

In 1908, James Welles Anderson took over the farm from his father. A tuberculosis outbreak in 1931 brought an end to the dairy business and a fire that destroyed the tobacco shed ended tobacco production on the farm.

James W. concentrated on market gardening, supplying the wholesale produce market and the Connecticut State Prison cannery in Wethersfield. In 1960, James Welles Anderson Sr. turned management of the farm over to his son David Clark Anderson, who became owner after his father's death and continues to operate the farm.

David's brother Jim assisted on the farm until his passing in 2009 and Jim's sons Craig and Christopher continue to work on the farm.

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LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	LOW	HIGH
breakers 75-80% lean	73.00	78.00
boners 80-85% lean	73.00	78.00
lean 88-90% lean	70.00	75.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	132.50	136.00
Choice 2-3	129.00	132.50
Sel 1-2	125.00	128.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEIN STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 2-3	123.00	128.00
Ch 2-3	117.00	123.00
Sel 1-2	110.00	116.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 2-3	128.00	133.00
Ch 2-3	125.00	128.50
Sel 1-2	118.00	123.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 114-128 lbs	195.00	210.00
No 1 106-112 lbs	222.00	230.00
No 1 90-104 lbs	245.00	250.00
No 2 120-128 lbs	187.00	187.00
No 3 80-130 lbs	180.00	197.00
No 3 72-78 lbs	207.00	207.00
Utility 100-110 lbs	140.00	140.00
Utility 80-98 lbs	185.00	197.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3

40-50 lbs	290.00	330.00
50-60 lbs	255.00	275.00
60-70 lbs	250.00	260.00
70-80 lbs	255.00	255.00
80-90 lbs	230.00	245.00
90-110 lbs	220.00	232.00
110-130 lbs	185.00	192.00
130-150 lbs	148.00	172.00
150-200 lbs	140.00	167.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3

120-160 lbs	110.00	135.00
160-200 lbs	100.00	112.00

BUCKS

200-300 lbs	70.00	105.00
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SLAUGHTER KIDS: Select 1, by head, est.

20-40 lbs	130.00	165.00
40-60 lbs	160.00	195.00
60-80 lbs	190.00	220.00
80-100 lbs	205.00	220.00

SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1, by head, est.

80-130 lbs	190.00	230.00
130-180 lbs	230.00	275.00

SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Select 1

100-150 lbs	250.00	290.00
150-250 lbs	350.00	410.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	40.00	46.00
	300-350 lbs	37.00	38.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	30.00	38.00
	300-350 lbs	30.00	35.50
	350-400 lbs	22.00	29.00
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	25.00	25.00
	400-500 lbs	19.50	21.00
	500-800 lbs	25.00	30.00
Boars	450-800 lbs	3.00	4.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4OZ	16.00	16.50
APPLES, EMPIRE, 120/140, #1	15.00	16.00
APPLE, GALA, FANCY, 125	16.00	17.00
APPLE, GALA, FANCY, 138	16.00	17.00
APPLES, MACS, #1, 120, 140	15.00	16.00
APPLES, MACS, FANCY, 80, 88	17.00	17.00
APPLE, MACS, FCY, 2-1/2", 12-3LB	16.00	16.00
APPLES, MACS, FANCY, 120, 140	17.00	17.00
APPLES, RED DEL, FANCY, 125	16.00	16.00
APPLES, RED DEL, FANCY, 134	16.00	16.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	5.00	6.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEET, CHIOGGA, LOOSE, 25LBS	14.00	14.00
BEETS, GOLD, LOOSE, 25 LBS	12.00	12.00
BEETS, RED, ORG, 25 LBS	8.00	8.00
POTATOES, CHEF, 50 LBS	14.00	14.00
TOMS, CHERRY, GHSE, 25 LBS	16.00	18.00
TOMS, CHERRY, GHSE, 8-10 OZ	23.00	24.00
TOMS, GHSE, 11 LB FLATS	23.00	24.00
TOMATO, HEIRLM, GHSE, 10LBS	24.00	28.00
TURNIP, PRPLTP, ORG, 25LBS	12.00	12.00

SHIPPED IN

APARAGUS, CA, BNCH, 11 LBS	24.00	29.00
BEANS, MACH PICKED, FL	36.00	38.00
BEETS, RED, BNCH, TX, 12	15.00	16.00
BOK CHOY, FL, 50 LBS	28.00	32.00
BOK CHOY, BABY, FL, 1.5 BU	28.00	32.00
CABBAGE, GREEN, NY, 50 LBS	11.00	13.00
CABBAGE, RED, FL, 50 LBS	15.00	16.00
CARROTS, GA, JUMBO, 50 LBS	15.00	15.00
CELERY, CHINESE, CA, CRATE	50.00	50.00
CHIVES, CHINESE, CA, CTNS	50.00	50.00
CHOY SUM, LONG, CA, 30 LBS	36.00	36.00
COLLARDS, GA, 24	12.00	13.00
CORN, BICOLOR, FL, 4-4 1/2 DZ	18.00	20.00
CUKE, LNG, GHSE, FLMWRP, 12	8.00	12.00
DANDELION, TX, 12 BNCH	18.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, WRAPPED, FL, 1-1/9	24.00	28.00
ENDIVE, FL, 24	22.00	26.00
ESCAROLE, FL, 1-1/9, 24	26.00	28.00
GAI CHOY, CA, 30 LBS	25.00	25.00
GINGER ROOT, HI, 30 LBS	45.00	55.00
KALE, GA, 24	13.00	14.00
KALE, LACINATO, TX, 12	20.00	20.00
LETT, BSTN, GHS, CAN, 12-4OZ	16.00	17.00
LET, GNL, AZ-CA, 24	12.00	16.00
LET, REDLF, AZ-CA, 24	12.00	16.00
LETT, OAKLF, CA, 2.2 LBS	11.00	13.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3LBS	6.00	6.50
MESCLUN MIX, ORG, CA, 3LBS	8.00	8.00
ONG CHOY, CA, 40 LBS	140.00	140.00
ONIONS, YELLOW, NY, 50 LBS	15.00	17.00
ONIONS, RED, MED, NY, 25 LBS	16.00	16.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, CA, 30 LBS	54.00	54.00
RADISHES, FL, 14-1LB	18.00	22.00
SPINACH, BABY, ORG, CA, 4LBS	10.00	12.00
SPINACH, FLAT, TX, 24	22.00	24.00
SPINACH, SAVOY, CA, 8-10 OZ	11.00	11.00
SQUASH, YEL, MED, FL, 1/2 BU	25.00	26.00
SWISS CHARD, MXD, TX, 12	16.00	17.00
TOMATO, MATURE GRN, FL, 5X6	25.00	26.00
YU CHOY, CA, 30 LBS	35.00	36.00
ZUCCHINI, FL, MED, 1/2 BU	10.00	12.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - March 21, 2016

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	40.00	70.00
61-75 lbs.	110.00	135.00
76-90 lbs.	185.00	187.50
91-105 lbs.	192.50	195.00
106 lbs. & up	197.50	200.00
Farm Calves	202.50	205.00
Starter Calves	55.00	60.00
Veal Calves	150.00	167.50
Open Heifers	130.00	140.00
Beef Heifers	95.00	115.00
Feeder Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Steers	85.00	106.00
Stock Bulls	n/a	n/a
Beef Bulls	101.00	93.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	4 @	25.00
Sheep	45.00	210.00
Lambs	115.00	225.00
Goats each	65.00	230.00
Kid Goats	80.00	120.00
Canners	up to	77.50
Cutters	78.00	81.00
Utility Grade Cows	82.00	85.00
Rabbits each	6.00	21.00
Chickens each	4.00	35.00
Ducks each	16.00	32.50

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.97	1.18
LARGE	.91	1.05
MEDIUM	.75	.88

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.40	1.55
LARGE	1.32	1.49
MEDIUM	.88	.99
SMALL	.74	.86

BOSTON TERMINAL WHOLESALE ORNAMENTALS

ACACIA, CA, per bunch, long	7.50	7.50
ANEMONE, NY, 10/bnch, lng	12.50	12.50
ASTER, CA, long	6.00	8.50
BANKSIA, CA, per stem, lng	7.50	7.50
BORONIA, CA, pr bnch, lng	12.50	13.50
CALLA, NENG, white, 5/bunch	20.00	25.00
CHERRY, flwr, VA, bnch exlng	30.00	35.00
DAFFODIL, NJ, 10/bunch, lng	7.50	7.50
DAFF, WA, 10/bunch, short	2.00	2.50
DAISIES, CA, Marguerites, 10	5.00	5.00
DELPHINIUM, CA, pr bnch, lng	8.50	10.00
FOXGLOVE, CA, bunch, long	12.00	12.00
GLADS, CA, bunch, std, xlng	13.50	15.00
GYPSY, CA, bunch, long	9.50	9.50
HEATHER, CA, StringRnge, lng	7.50	8.00
LILAC, CA, 10/bnch, prple, xl	35.00	35.00
LILAC, CA, 10/bnch, white, xl	25.00	25.00

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

21-R. 72 x 30 x 12 (high) foot hoop house for sale. Lots of extra parts. 203-387-3055.

28. Farmall Culti-Vision A with 5' Woods Belly Mower. \$2,500.00 or B.O. 860-627-5276.

WANTED

17-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/Softwood. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

36-R. Plastic mulch laying machine for 3 pt hitch. James A. Fazzone. 203-250-6677.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

24-R. The Connecticut Military Department has indoor stalls for lease at the Governor's Horse Guard facilities in Avon and Newtown. Monthly rate is \$350.00. For further information, please visit our website at www.ct.gov/mil/stall-lease or call 860-524-4968. Proceeds benefit Connecticut Governor's Horse Guards.

**REQUEST FOR SPECIALTY CROP
BLOCK GRANT CONCEPT PROPOSALS**

The CT Department of Agriculture is seeking concept proposals for projects that solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops, defined by the USDA as fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, maple syrup, honey, horticulture, and nursery crops.

Projects must impact and produce measurable outcomes for the specialty crop industry and/or the public. Submitted projects cannot begin until after Jan. 1, 2017, and must be completed by Sept. 29, 2019. The maximum award is \$75,000.

More information and complete application guidelines are available at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.

Concept proposals are due to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture by 4 p.m. on **April 6, 2016** and should be submitted to jaim.smith@ct.gov. Questions may be also be directed to Jaime at that email address or by calling 860-713-2559.

**DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE SELLING CHICKENS
REMOVED FROM EAST HAMPTON HORSE BREEDER**

The Dept. of Agriculture is offering for sale nearly 80 chickens that were removed from the Fairy Tail Equine horse-breeding facility in East Hampton last month along with 32 horses and numerous other animals.

The department was granted ownership of all the animals by a Superior Court judge. The chickens, mostly laying hens of various breeds, have been rehabilitated and are in good health.

They will be sold in lots of six for \$25, and approved buyers will be required to pick them up at a location and date to be determined.

All proceeds will be deposited into the Animal Abuse Cost Recovery Account, used to help pay for the care of all animals seized during department investigations. For more information on the sale please contact Steve Jensen at Steve.Jensen@ct.gov or 860-713-2519.

**BRUCE GRESCZYK JR. NAMED CT's
OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER FOR 2016
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cutting out the low-performing markets and starting a CSA. In 2012, they began with 120 members. In 2015, Bruce proudly reports there are over 500 members in their CSA!

At Gresczyk Farms in New Hartford, Bruce Jr. and his family - which includes his wife Amy, their son Bruce III, his parents Bruce and Bernadette and his brother Henry - grow 40 acres of sweet corn and 70 acres of mixed vegetables, along with a half-acre of greenhouse crops.

Bruce credits working with Jude Boucher at UConn Extension for making him a better grower. By learning about Integrated Pest Management, Bruce was able to make gains in quality and yield while reducing the inputs needed to grow the crops.

That is the true model of sustainability, a concept that is near and dear to Bruce's heart. It's so important that he's started working with Leanne Pundt on biological controls in the greenhouses, and has been able to significantly reduce the reliance on chemicals for pest control.

Bruce is also active in the community, serving on the Connecticut Greenhouse Grower's Board of Directors and supporting the Connecticut Food Bank, and hosting farm tours for groups wishing to learn about farming and sustainable practices.

Bruce's passion for what he does, and his continual work at sustainably improving the farm, the farmer himself, and the community in which he resides is why he is Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmer of 2016.

**ANDERSON FARMS RECEIVES
CENTURY FARM AWARD
(Continued from Page 1)**

Currently, Anderson Farms sells a wide variety of vegetables and produce wholesale at the Hartford Regional Market, in direct sales to other farm stands and through retail sales at the farm.

The farm has grown to over 140 acres producing various traditional New England vegetables. Strawberries have been added as well as a greenhouse expansion for production of bedding plants and early tomatoes.

A new building and a walk-in cooler was constructed for washing, preparation and packaging produce for market.

Anderson Farms was one of the first to use Integrated Pest Management, and works with the Great Meadows Conservation Trust and the Wethersfield Fish & Game Club.

David maintains active memberships in the Hartford County and Connecticut Farm Bureaus, the Greater Hartford Farmers Market and the Connecticut Vegetable Growers Association.

David is also a member of the Board of Governors and a 50+ year member of Company #1, Wethersfield's Volunteer Fire Department, the oldest fire company in continuous existence in New England, founded in 1803.

Ag Day at the Capitol is hosted by the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council with the assistance of the Dept. of Agriculture and Farm Credit East.



The annual Ag Day at the Capitol last week drew more than 40 agricultural-related exhibitors and a crowd of attendees including farmers, students and members of the General Assembly. Clockwise from top left: Governor Dannel P. Malloy toured the event with Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky, who are seen here sampling omelettes served by the Connecticut Poultry Association; Dept. of Agriculture Animal Control Officers Barbara Godejohn and Nancy Jarvis speaking with FFA students; some of the many FFA students who volunteered their time at the event; an exhibition booth by the Town of Lebanon featured information on its farmland-preservation efforts, as well as free samples of locally-produced maple syrup.



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**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE**
www.CTGrown.gov 860-713-2500

Commissioner steven.reviczky@ct.gov	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2501
Agricultural Development linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov	Linda Piotrowicz 860-713-2503
Regional Market linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov	Linda Piotrowicz 860-566-3699
Farmland Preservation cam.weimar@ct.gov	Cameron Weimar, Ph.D 860-713-2511
Regulation & Inspection bruce.sherman@ct.gov	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504
State Veterinarian mary.lis@ct.gov	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
Aquaculture david.carey@ct.gov	David Carey 203-874-2855
Agricultural Report Editor steve.jensen@ct.gov	Steve Jensen 860-713-2519